

Gemayel aide meets Junblatt

BEIRUT (R) — A senior aide of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel met Druze chieftain Walid Junblatt and two other key opposition leaders unexpectedly Friday in an effort to end violence in the Beirut area and elsewhere. But opposition sources said after the meeting, held in the northern port of Tripoli, that the leaders still refused to meet Mr. Gemayel himself unless he fulfilled their demands, which include abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal accord. As relative calm returned to Beirut after five days of heavy fighting, some of which involved Druze militiamen controlled by Mr. Junblatt, the Gemayel aide flew by military helicopter to Tripoli, under the control of Syrian troops, to meet the opposition chiefs.

Jordan Times

An Independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تيمز: جريدة سياسية مستقلة باللغة العربية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Volume 8 Number 2354

AMMAN, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 1983 — DHUL QA'IDEH 26, 1403.

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Hassan cables good wishes to Qatar

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of good wishes to Qatari Prince Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani on the occasion of Qatar's independence which falls Saturday. In his cable, Prince Hassan wished Sheikh Khalifa and his people further success in achieving progress and prosperity for his country.

Turkish artist tortured in jail

ISTANBUL (R) — Artist Orhan Taylan, a prominent defendant in the trial of Turkish Peace Association members here, has been jailed and tortured in Ankara and denied visits by his family, informed sources said Friday. Mr. Taylan was arrested in Istanbul on Aug. 11 and taken about a week later to Ankara, where he was given electric shock treatment and beaten in an effort to make him confess to belonging to the outlawed Turkish Communist Party, they said. The sources said Mr. Taylan was not allowed visitors until Friday, when a lawyer was permitted to see him.

Assad, Fahd exchange letters

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia have exchanged letters on current developments in Lebanon, the official SANA news agency reported. It said King Fahd's message was delivered to Mr. Assad by Saudi Prince Bandar Ben Sultan who arrived in Damascus Friday. Prince Bandar also carried President Assad's reply to King Fahd.

OAU official to meet Polisario leader

PARIS (R) — A mission from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) which is trying to find peaceful solutions to the conflicts in Chad and Western Sahara arrived in Algiers Friday, the Algerian News Agency (APS) reported. The mission includes acting OAU Secretary-General Peter Onu and Goshu Wolde, foreign minister of Ethiopia, which is the current OAU chairman. APS said the two men left Algiers immediately for the "liberated territories" of the Western Sahara to meet Mohammed Abdelaziz, secretary-general of the Polisario Front.

West German Military Intelligence chief dismissed

BONN (R) — The head of West Germany's Military Intelligence service (M.A.D.), Admiral Elmar Schmalchling, was dismissed Friday from his post, the Defence Ministry announced. It said in a statement the decision was based on "personal considerations which affected his duties" as secret service chief but gave no details. Adm. Schmalchling, 46, appointed as head three years ago, has been assigned to another senior post and did not face disciplinary action.

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Army pulls out of west Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese army pulled columns of tanks and armour out of west Beirut Friday and the capital breathed again after five days of heavy shelling and clashes between soldiers and Muslim gunmen.

Shops and banks reopened and traffic returned to the glass-and-rubble-strewn streets. The army relaxed its round-the-clock curfew to let people move about during the hours of daylight.

From early morning troops and army vehicles rumbled out of the mainly Muslim western sector of the capital to return to positions they held before they were mobilised to fight an insurrection by Muslim and leftist gunmen.

One column of tanks and about 50 armoured personnel carriers was seen moving towards Christian east Beirut down the Corniche Mazraa, one of the city's main arteries.

An army spokesman said the redeployment signalled the end of the operation to crush the gunmen. But soldiers exchanged fire with occasional snipers holed up in buildings and masked gunmen were still at large in Sbfite Muslim strongholds in the southern slums.

Tension was still high in west Beirut and many residents, their nerves shattered by the fighting, flinched at the sound of a door slamming.

Unofficial estimates said about 100 soldiers and civilians died in the clashes. The army lost 42 men dead and 170 injured.

The independent newspaper An Nahar reported that the army had arrested 100 suspects during its sweep.

Government officials said army units withdrawn from west Beirut would deploy evenly throughout the capital to demonstrate that the army did not discriminate against Muslims.

The leaders of the rebellious gunmen — mainly from the old "National Movement" which fought Christian militiamen in the 1975-76 civil war — denounced the army as a tool of Christian domination.

The officials said that under the new deployment plan the army would establish an "effective presence" in Christian areas and close down any Christian militia barracks still maintained in the capital.

Government officials said they were confident the army would not meet any resistance when it returned to the southern slums, where gunmen of the Sbfite Amal (hope) Organisation have kept order in recent days.

They said Amal Friday released



Lebanese army troops patrol west Beirut Thursday to mop up remaining pockets of irregular militiamen (A.P. wirephoto)

around 100 soldiers captured in earlier fighting. In return the army apparently agreed to keep a low profile in Sbfite areas.

With Beirut relatively peaceful, attention focused again on the army's next task — moving into the troubled Shoub mountains southeast of the capital to replace Israeli forces when they carry out a long-promised partial withdrawal.

Druze leader Walid Junblatt, whose men control the Shoub mountains under Israeli hegemony, says he will fight the army if it tries to enter before the Gemayel administration agrees to give the Druze a bigger say in running the country.

But a senior Lebanese officer said the army would take over the Shoub next week whether or not an agreement was reached. The French-language daily L'Orient-Le Jour reported.

Officers in the four-nation peacekeeping force fear that if the army's crack units head for the Shoub, the gunmen in west Beirut — allies of the Druze — may again challenge the government.

More U.S. Marines

SANTA BARBARA, California (R) — A second 2,000-man U.S. Marine assault force sails for Lebanon waters Friday ready to reinforce American troops in Beirut.

The Marines are with a naval amphibious force ordered to the eastern Mediterranean from the Indian Ocean by President Reagan Thursday to ensure the safety of 1,200 Marines already in Lebanon as part of a 5,400-man international peacekeeping force.

A senior American official told reporters there were no plans to send new troops ashore. But he made it clear they could go into action quickly if needed. Two Marines have been killed and 14 wounded in Lebanon's factional fighting.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Mr. Reagan "directed that all prudent and necessary measures be taken to ensure the safety of the Marines in Beirut."

Mr. Reagan ordered the Aircraft Carrier Eisenhower to stay in position off Lebanon. He also said he would break off his holiday Friday to consult his National Security Advisers and congressional leaders in Washington on the Middle East.

Lebanon seeks Arab help to remove foreign forces

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon Friday appealed to Arab states for help in removing Syrian and Palestinian forces from its territory, state-run Beirut Radio reported.

In a message to Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi, Foreign Minister Elie Salem called on the 21-member organisation to cooperate with international and Arab resolutions on the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, the broadcast said.

Lebanon would continue its efforts to secure a withdrawal of Israeli troops and asked Arab states to help remove the Syrians and Palestinians, it said.

Lebanon signed a troop withdrawal accord with Israel on May 17, but it has not been implemented as Israel insists it will not withdraw unless Syrian and Palestinian forces also leave. Syria rejects the agreement.

Israeli withdrawal

TEL AVIV (R) — General David Levy, deputy commander-in-chief of Israeli armed forces, said Friday there would be no further delay in Israeli withdrawal from the Shoub mountains to the Awali River.

The former air force chief told Israel Radio he hoped the pullback would be carried out without fighting.

He said Israel was making every effort to coordinate its moves with the Lebanese government and the Druze, to assure a peaceful withdrawal.

The deputy chief of staff said Syria controlled the situation in Lebanon and had achieved considerable political advantages, without having to fight a war.

Qasem: Israel displacing Arabs

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem was quoted Thursday as complaining that Israel has been displacing Arab residents in the West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza Strip with the "aim of undermining the eventual creation of a Palestinian state."

Mr. Qasem told the newspaper Al-Anba in an interview conducted in Geneva that he had cautioned Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat during a recent meeting against Israel's alleged intentions.

"The Israelis are trying to empty the West Bank and Gaza of local residents within the next few years, because these residents constitute the nucleus of the projected Palestinian state," Mr. Qasem told the paper.

On account of this, he said, the PLO "must set their priorities to save the land and encourage Gazans and West Bankers to stay on... because there can be no Palestinian state without people in these regions."

Jordan and the PLO have disagreed on means to obtain an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza.

Heavy fighting reported in Chad

N'DJAMENA (R) — Heavy fighting said to have involved French aircraft and Libyan tanks was reported in northern Chad Friday following a three-week lull, but there were conflicting accounts about what happened.

Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila said government troops had beaten off a big Libyan assault on Oum-Chalouba, an isolated desert outpost some 640 kilometres north-east of N'Djamena.

In Paris, a spokesman for the Libyan-backed rebel forces said they held Oum-Chalouba — and that they had been attacked there Friday by French Jaguar aircraft.

The French Defence Ministry refused to comment on the report, and foreign journalists confined to the Chad capital were unable to verify either account.

French Air Force Jaguar strike aircraft and Mirage fighter escorts — there are four of each based here — took off from N'Djamena Friday morning, as they do regularly, but there was no word on where they went.

The rebels' spokesman in Paris, Abderrahman Moussa, told Reuters: "We hold Oum-Chalouba, not them. We simply responded to a provocation by the other side."

In Tripoli, another rebel spokesman repeated the claim and said the Jaguars had also hit Kalait. He also said French AMX tanks had arrived in Chad.

Military sources said the flat terrain around the outpost and its isolation makes it virtually indefensible, and it has changed hands more than once during the latest 10-week conflict.

Britain backs Gemayel's call for talks

LONDON (R) — Britain Friday backed Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's call for a dialogue with the country's political leaders, saying Lebanon's problems could not be settled by force. "We urge all parties concerned to heed President Gemayel's call for a national dialogue," Foreign Office Minister Richard Luce said in a statement. "Lebanon's problems can be dealt with only by dialogue and not by violence." Expressing its full support for Mr. Gemayel and the Lebanese government, Britain said it would help as far as it could to bring about withdrawal of all foreign forces. Britain has 97 troops serving with the 5,000-strong Multinational Peacekeeping Force in Beirut.

King receives full Chinese support

PEKING (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday found confirmation of firm Chinese support for Jordan's efforts toward a solution of the Palestine problem during his current visit here.

Chinese leaders assured the King that they viewed an Israeli withdrawal from all territories it has occupied since 1967 and establishment of a Palestinian national entity as the basis of any Arab-Israeli settlement.

The Chinese gave their full support to the same plan last December when King Hussein presented the pan-Arab blueprint for peace as the head of an Arab League delegation to Peking.

Meanwhile, at an international conference on the Palestine issue now underway in Geneva, Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Wen Yezhan told Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat: "We believe the final victory will be yours," the New China News Agency said Friday.

At a banquet Friday for the King hosted by Chinese President Li Xiannian, King Hussein said a reason for his visit was to elicit just such a support.

"The Palestine issue is the crux of the Middle East dispute... (and) will always constitute a root threatening world security and peace," the president said.

Friday morning, both King Hussein and Premier Zhao Ziyang showed concern over the increasing violence in Lebanon and said that the country's territorial integrity should be respected.

They also said that there was great room for increased bilateral cooperation.

A large part of the royal party's 10-day visit will be taken up with sightseeing.

The group leaves Peking next Monday for the ancient Chinese capital of Xian, travelling from there to Guilin, then to Shanghai.

The King and the Chinese leaders are also expected to discuss bilateral issues during his stay, the sources said.

King Hussein and Queen Noor arrived Thursday and will spend five days in Peking before leaving for a tour of Xian, Guilin and Shanghai, according to the official schedule.

On Saturday King Hussein will meet Chinese Communist Party leader Yu Yaobang and have a private dinner with Premier Zhao.

Most of the rest of the King's schedule is taken up with trips to army and civilian units and historical sites.

The royal party leaves China on September 10 for South Korea.

Also Friday, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Shurif Zaid Ibn Shaker met the commander of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Chinese Forces. The meeting was attended by Chinese Chiefs-of-Staff and members of the accompanying Jordanian military delegation.

The two sides discussed prospects for military cooperation between Jordan and the People's Republic of China.

"A priority must be accorded to means of salvaging the land and instating the residents where they are, because without a people there can be no homeland for the Palestinians," Mr. Qasem said.

"The name of the (projected) Palestinian state — be it independent or federated with Jordan would be without any meaning if the land were emptied of its people."

He was obviously referring to the Palestine National Council (PNC) rejection of the proposed federation between the planned Palestinian state and Jordan.

U.S. space shuttle passes halfway point of mission

KENNEDY SPACE CENTRE (R) — The crew of the space shuttle Challenger passed the halfway point of their six-day mission Friday by moving the spacecraft into a lower earth orbit and testing its mechanical arm.

The Challenger was manoeuvred from an orbit 184 miles (294 kilometres) above the earth to a more circular one at 139 miles (223 kilometres) to conduct an experiment on the interaction of oxygen with other materials at lower altitudes.

Randy Stone, a flight director at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, told a news conference the manoeuvres to put the shuttle into lower earth orbit "went with absolutely no problems, very smooth."

He said tests of a new \$100 million data relay satellite had gone better than Thursday, when computer problems at a ground station in White Sands, New Mexico, frequently disrupted transmissions.

The crew used the satellite to show themselves on television testing the arm. Mission specialist Dale Gardner turned himself upside down in the zero gravity and operated the arm with his feet.

The Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS) is the first part of a communications network which is considered crucial to the European Spacecraft project.

TDRS malfunctioned when it was launched earlier this year and reached its desired orbit only in June.

Oil rig sinks to sea bed off Western Australia

PERTH (R) — A giant oil rig sank in violent storms five miles (eight kilometres) off Western Australia Friday after being swamped by 30 foot (nine metre) waves, coastguards said.

The 6,000-tonne rig Key Biscayne, abandoned by its 52 crew Thursday, had drifted out of control after a tow line to a tug broke, during the night.

Floating oil drums, red life rafts and other debris Friday led search ships to the rig, reeking on the sea bed in 44 metres of water. The U.S. rig was nearing the end of a 2,200-mile tow south from exploration work off Darwin when it ran into the storm Thursday.

It had been on charter to Esso Petroleum from the Key International Drilling Company and had been due for a refit in Fremantle.

But the tow rope to a tug broke, the crew were evacuated, and then



THE NEWS

Jordan to host international display of defence equipment

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It is not every day that one can view an international exhibition of defence equipment representing manufacturers from around the globe, whose names hit newspaper headlines frequently. But a forthcoming display in Jordan promises to do this and much more in terms of showing off the most advanced military technology, and displaying the progress the defence industry has made since World War II.

Jordan will play host to an international exhibition of defence and defence-related equipment from the world's leading manufacturers in November. Organisers of the event said Monday. "The Middle East International Defence Exposition (MEIDEI)" scheduled to be held Nov. 15-20 at the Zarqa Free Zone, is expected to bring together the most sophisticated and modern technology in defence from around the world.

As a first-ever event of its nature, MEIDEI will provide an ideal opportunity for military, government, and industry personnel from many nations to view latest advances and achievements of modern military systems, technology and supplies, the organisers say.

Preparations are under way at the exposition site to provide all

the facilities needed for one of the major displays of advanced weapons, tactical equipment, tanks, armoured personnel carriers, missiles and small arms.

The organisers of the exposition, Defence Research International Inc., a Washington-based American company, has obtained the approval of the Jordanian government to organise the event in this country. They have signed an agreement with the Zarqa Free Zone Corporation to make use of about 6,000 square metres of covered area and 14,000 square metres of open plots for the purpose.

Apart from the site at the free zone, an adjoining area to the airport, old airport at Marka has been reserved for fighter jets, bombers, transport and helicopters, as part of MEIDEI.

Some world-renowned manufacturers, such as Boeing, Bell Helicopters, Westinghouse, General Motors, McDonnell Douglas, Euromissiles, Thomson-CSF, Dassault, Rolls Royce, Colt and General Electric are expected to display their equipment at the exposition. Subhi Dajani, one of the organisers at the Jordanian end of operations, told the Jordan Times.

"It will be something unique," Mr. Dajani said. "The Middle East has never had such an exhibition ever before and Jordan is the ideal country in the region to hold such an event," he said.

The Zarqa Free Zone is best suited for such an event, the organisers say. Hailed as one of the landmarks in Jordan's progress, it offers the best of facilities including spacious hangar-type warehouses, a high-power electricity supply and excellent communication facilities.

Delegates representing the navy, army, and air force from more than 26 nations, mostly from the Third World, will visit the exposition at the invitation of the sponsors. Admission to the exhibition will be restricted to invited guests and on the closing day, Nov. 25, "we may decide to open it to the public," Mr. Dajani said.

The organisers hope MEIDEI will be the forerunner of many more similar exhibitions and will become established as a bi-annual event.

They also say that several million Jordanian dinars are expected to be spent in Jordan related to this event.

Apart from weaponry and tactical equipment, some of the most advanced equipment in communications are also going on display at MEIDEI.

Participants, who have confirmed their bookings for space at the exhibition site include firms from West Germany, France, the United States, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Spain, Austria and Singapore.

Badran discusses ties with Soviet Muslims

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office Thursday afternoon the visiting Soviet Muslim delegation led by the head of the Central Asia and Kazakhstan Muslim Department Sheikh Shamseddin Babakhanov.

The two parties reviewed the department's activities and considered ways in which cooperation between the two sides could be expanded and consolidated in the future.

In particular the two parties decided that the exchange of groups of officials and people between the Central Asian republics and Jordan would greatly facilitate this policy.

The meeting was also attended by the Islamic Chief Justice Sheikh Ibrahim Al Qattan.

Later in the day, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel

Al Sharif hosted a dinner at Al Hussein Sports City in honour of Sheikh Shamseddin Babakhanov and the accompanying delegation.

The dinner was attended by Sheikh Qattan, a number of leading Muslim thinkers and the Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Rafik Nishanov.

On Wednesday, the delegation visited the Islamic Cultural Centre, the university mosque and the Shar'a Faculty of Islamic Law. They also held discussions with the President of the University of Jordan Abdul Salam Al Majali.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran (right) receives Thursday the delegation of Muslims from the Soviet republic of Kazakhstan at his office in Amman (Petra photo)

Momani warns against violations of municipal building regulations

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani Thursday addressed Irbid Governorate mayors who are taking part in a seminar for mayors being held at the Irbid office of the Institute of Public Administration, in cooperation with the ministry.

Mr. Momani stressed the need to adhere to the law and gov-

ernmental regulations regardless of personal considerations. He pointed out that all violations of city and town plans should be dealt with firmly and quickly, and building licences should be obtained before any construction work is started in the area.

The Higher Planning Council is working hard to finalise future plans for Jordanian cities to be adhered to the planning and exe-

cutive stages, Mr. Momani said.

He added that a mayor and his municipal council can be said to be performing well when violations of plans and offences against city regulations are eradicated. Mr. Momani urged the mayors to try their best to guarantee the supply of all residential areas in their towns and villages with the basic municipal services on an equal basis.



Minister of Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani Thursday addresses a seminar attended by mayors from the Irbid Governorate (Petra photo)

Bishop presented with award

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has awarded the Arab Evangelical Episcopal bishop, Fa'iq Haddad, based in occupied Jerusalem, with Independence Order of the First Degree for his services and efforts.

The order was presented to Bishop Haddad Thursday by Court Minister Amer Khammash.



Confectionery seminar concludes with call for more Arab projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in the first Arab seminar on the confectionery industry in the Arab World Thursday sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein in which they expressed their gratitude to the King, people and government of Jordan for hosting the seminar. They also praised the role of Jordan in promoting joint Arab economic cooperation.

Meanwhile, the seminar, which was organised by Arab Union of Foodstuff Industry (AUI), concluded Thursday at the Amman Chamber of Industry.

The AUI Secretary-General, Dr. Falah Jaber, said that the conference called for the setting up of joint Arab projects to extract sugar from dates and to manufacture glucose. It also called for the establishment of an Arab institute for food technology, Dr. Jaber added.

He praised the Ministry of Labour's policy which aims to hold training courses in cooperation with AUI to turn out trained workers. The conference also called for the introduction of uniform Arab specifications for the confectionery industry.

The conference discussed a working paper on the confectionery industry in Jordan submitted by the Amman Chamber of Industry in addition to two other working papers on joint Arab projects and the Arab confectionery industry conference, which were submitted by the AUI.

Delegates representing Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the Council of Arab Economic Unity, AUI, the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development, and the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology took part in the two-day seminar.

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AOAS trainees attend briefing

AMMAN (J.T.) — The participants in the management training course, which was held at the Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS), Thursday, visited the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) where they were briefed on the activities, training methods and programme coordination methods adopted by the institute.

The participants, representing various Arab administrative institutes, also toured the IPA's individual departments.

Storage meeting to begin today

AMMAN (Petra) — The second Arab seminar on underground storage starts Saturday, Sept. 3 in the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan. The seminar, to be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, is being organised by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) in cooperation with the Arab Geologists' Union.

The one week-seminar will discuss subjects related to the underground storage of strategic materials such as oil, foodstuffs.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New ambassador leaves for Madrid

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's newly appointed ambassador to Spain Suheil Al Tal Friday left for Madrid to take up his new position there.

Gaza citizens may renew passports

AMMAN (Petra) — Citizens from the Gaza Strip holding temporary passports can have their passports renewed, according to a General Passport Department source Thursday. The source requested that all those wishing to renew their passport to call at the department as soon as possible.

Wadi Mousa survey implemented

AQABA (Petra) — A comprehensive study of the Wadi Mousa region started Friday with the purpose of setting up a social development office there. The study, which will run until mid-September, is being carried out by the Aqaba Social Development office Manager Husam Al Mahadin upon the express instruction of Minister of Social Development In'am Al Nufli.

July customs revenue increases

AMMAN (J.T.) — Customs revenues during the month of July totalled JD 14,661,000 representing an increase of JD 1,953,000 on the corresponding period last year. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, announced Thursday. The total revenue from customs during the past seven months of this year amounted to JD 105,293,000, the source said.

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

INVITATION TO TENDER

FOR THE TELEPHONE NETWORK EXPANSION PROJECT IN THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN TENDER NUMBER TCC 10/83

The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan invites the submission of tenders for the provision, installation, testing and commissioning, on a full turnkey basis, of:

- (1) CATEGORY I : New digital telephone switching facilities and related power facilities in Amman area.
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- (3) CATEGORY III: South rural telephone system in Kerak Governorate area including digital switching system, remote switching units, local junction cable networks, PCM cable/microwave systems, multi access subscriber radio system, and related power facilities, including building modification at Kerak Exchange.

Tenderers may submit proposal for all of these three Categories or any one or two of them.

The Loan Agreement between OVERSEAS ECONOMIC COOPERATION FUND, JAPAN (OECF) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN DID NOT restrict floating this tender within the Japanese Market, BUT allowed the participation to many "eligible Source Countries" the list of which could be obtained from the Secretary, TCC TENDER COMMITTEE.

Tender Documents and relevant instructions can be obtained from:

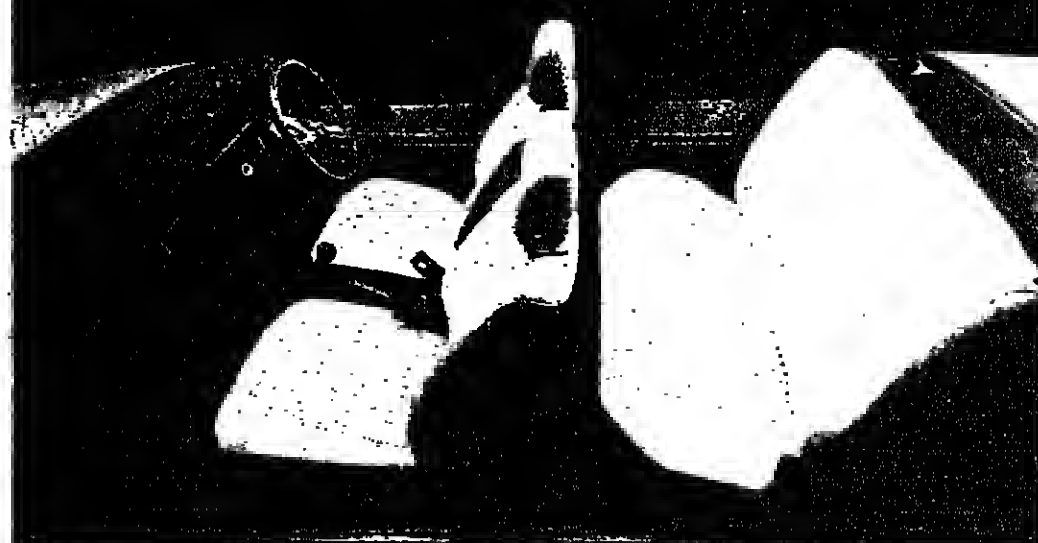
The Secretary of TCC Board's Tender Committee, TCC, 3rd Circle, Jebel Amman, P.O. Box 1689, Amman-Jordan

against payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 500 (Five Hundred J.D.)

The closing date of tender submission to TCC H.Q. in Amman is 1400 hours on Wednesday, Nov. 30, 1983.

Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail
Director-General

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 Managing Editor: **MOHAMMAD AMAD**
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 Circulation: 10,000 copies daily
 Subscription: 10,000 copies daily
 Distribution: 10,000 copies daily
 Printing: 10,000 copies daily
 Address: P.O. Box 1714, Amman, Jordan
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Shultz's short memory

U.S. SECRETARY of State George Shultz's emphasis that the Reagan initiative is still alive is of little consequence as long as nothing is done by the U.S. administration to prove that it can have an effective role in a Middle East peace drive. Secretary Shultz should remember that it was Israel that inflicted the first blow on the initiative at the time of its very birth. The American veto against a U.N. Security Council resolution condemning Israel's settlement policy has recently shown that there are no limits to the U.S. administration's readiness to support every Israeli fanaticism and aggression. In conclusion, this very U.S. policy leaves nothing to be negotiated and thus undermines even the slightest ray of hope in an American-sponsored negotiation.

It is noteworthy to remind Mr. Shultz that it is Israel and the U.S. that have turned the initiative into a fiasco. Hence, it is funny for Mr. Shultz to state that the initiative is still in good shape and to call on the Arabs to support it. What is even funnier is his exclamation against those who no longer believe in the initiative about where they are going. Mr. Shultz had better listen to the Arabs' response to U.S. policy, which has invariably been in total opposition to the declared intentions of the initiative.

In reply to Mr. Shultz's question: Where are we going? It is a simple fact that with the U.S. policy and its consequences, there is nothing for the Arabs to do but all for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East conflict that it is hoped will result in a just and lasting peace for the region.

Sawt Al Shaab: A common Arab concern

THE DETERIORATING situation in Lebanon is obviously turning the possibility of a national dialogue to resolve inter-Lebanese differences into a distant possibility. The Lebanese people, with all its diverse factions, have a national responsibility both towards their country and the whole Arab World. It is now obvious that attempts at achieving military superiority and victory by one faction or another is out of question. To continue to try this policy at the expense of national interests and in the service of narrow factional gains has a very high price. For a faction to gain superiority in Lebanon it has to sell its soul to a foreign ally. This will lead Lebanon nowhere but into an endless whirlwind of agonies and alienation.

The recent break out of armed hostilities between the Lebanese army and the Amal Shi'ite forces if one is not careful simply yet another prelude to what will be a new civil war in Lebanon. The Shouf is another inflamed part of the Lebanon which also threatens to result in general hostilities, after being heated up by the Israeli occupation forces.

Needless to say, the enemies of the Arab Nation want to manipulate these factional differences in their drive to Balkanise the Arab World. The creation of dependent clients is obviously an enemy plan that the Lebanon currently represents the first phase of. The partitioning of Lebanon is an Israeli aim, and it is clearly that each Arab state will be treated in such a way if the Zionists are given half a chance. Hence, it is not just in the Lebanese people's interest to foil the plot threatening its integrity, it is and should be a common Arab concern.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Cementing friendly ties

KING HUSSEIN'S Far Eastern tour, which started Thursday, represents a new stage in Jordan's moves at the international level to give impetus to the initiative aimed at establishing a just and comprehensive Middle East settlement. Before his departure, King Hussein made a statement stressing the fact that the absence of such a settlement can only complicate the Middle East issue further. He also stressed that the Arab peace proposal laid down by the Fez Summit reflects the Arab states' desire to achieve such a peaceful settlement.

Peace in our region is clearly the responsibility of the international community. But peace should not be left totally in the hands of the superpowers because we must not give them the temptation to impose their will and hegemony on the region. King Hussein's reference to the ties of friendship between Jordan and China, and China's firm stand in support of Arab causes and struggle clearly means that the Arabs do not forget their friends and their favourable sympathetic position.

Al Dustour: King compliments China

ON THE eve of his visit to China, King Hussein made a statement in which he expressed Jordan's appreciation to friendly nations, and particularly China, for its support of Arab just causes. Jordan, he said, is grateful to China for its constant support for the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular for their struggle which aims to regain their homeland. He also explained the real danger to peace and Jordan's stand toward this issue and its views concerning the establishment of a just peace in the area. The King spoke about Israel's intransigence and the Fez Arab summit which took steps to solve the problem. He also warned against further dissent within Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) forces in Lebanon and called on all organisations to unite to confront the common enemy, and appealed to all Arab countries to stop interfering in the PLO's internal affairs.

King Hussein said that the international community has a great responsibility towards peace in the Middle East and, therefore, other nations should support the sincere Arab efforts to achieve that goal.

Sawt Al Shaab: Gemayel warned again

THE WARRING factions which oppose the government of President Gemayel in Lebanon have been able to take the battle into Beirut before the government was able to move its troops to flush out the armed militia from the mountains around the capital. This is a clear indication to the Beirut government that these factions are still not satisfied with the present state of affairs, and that they seek to have a say in the government and in ruling Lebanon. The government ought to listen to the opposition parties and try to meet their demands in a bid to bring about a settlement. The Gemayel government must seriously work towards achieving national reconciliation and not allow one party or faction to gain hegemony in Lebanon or dominate the other factions.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

War cannot be the remedy

By Franz Schurmann

The economic news from the U.S. must be as puzzling to Middle Easterners as it is to Americans. We have been hearing for some months now that the economy is in full recovery. In early August we Americans were told the recovery is so good that there is danger of the economy going into boom, becoming "overheated." That means interest rates may go up again. And that means the economy will slow down. And if it slows down we may go back into recession.

We Americans like to compare the economy to a human being. If it is sick, a doctor comes to make it healthy, the doctor being the government and its economic policy. Now it seems as if the economy is like a patient who was very sick for a long time. The doctor worked hard to make him healthy, and so he gets well so fast, he jumps up out of bed, runs ten miles a

day, works twelve or fourteen hours, goes back to one party after another. All of a sudden the doctor comes rushing over and gives him medicine so strong it sends him back into bed.

For most Americans the recovery has been mainly one of economic figures they read in their newspapers. There has been a recent drop in unemployment, but those re-hired have been from many old manufacturing industries. How long will these antiquated jobs last? Even the re-hired in interest rates that began a year ago, made installment (hire-purchase) buying possible for many people, and it helped owners of stock. But with the looming threat of interest rates rising again, stock values have gone down, home building too is dropping, and it is questionable how long sales of U.S. autos will remain good.

And a good part of the rec-

overy has been brought about by higher defense spending that began last December and has been picking up this entire year. The Pentagon is a purchaser of massive proportions, and when it goes into the marketplace to buy, this can have a tremendous impact on the economy.

The so-called recovery would have been more convincing if we could see signs of it in other countries. Indeed, there are such signs, but mainly in Japan and other Pacific region economies. Even there, the recovery is slow. The U.S. is a big importer from the Pacific countries, and so it is understandable that U.S. recovery would stimulate theirs. But not much recovery is evident in Europe. Oil exports from the Middle East and other oil exporting countries have not climbed. Latin American economies remain in a disastrous state. And the Third World in

general is in bad shape. In the 1970's it was hit by higher oil prices. Now it has been hit by the general world recession.

The U.S. dollar is now stronger than it has been in years. That means people throughout the world are convinced that U.S. interest rates will again rise. And that means, in turn, that people believe that the world recession is not over. They do not believe that the recovery of the American economy signals a general 'return' to prosperity throughout the world.

But there also is a powerful psychological factor operative in the current doubts about the recovery. The strong dollar reflects fears that we may be heading toward a time of more local wars all over the globe. If so, what better choice is there than putting one's wealth into dollars. If the U.S. government cannot finance its foreign and

defence policies through taxes, then it will do so through deficit spending. That means the U.S. government will raid capital markets, and offer the highest interest rates... like some Middle Eastern young men who offer the highest bride price and get the most beautiful woman. Imagine the U.S. Treasury offering, let us say, 15 per cent or 20 per cent on short-term Treasury bills! In five years I could double my original capital!

Wars cost money. There also are times when governments impose severe controls on their societies to pay for those wars. Controls means wage controls, rationing of goods, and some price controls, though the latter is very difficult if not impossible. Naturally wars mean the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. And the poor fight and die for lofty ideals while the rich

stay very quiet in their palatial mansions.

I see no sign that the Reagan administration is willing to go all the way and plunge the world back into the kinds of wars we saw in the 1950's and 1960's. Basically it wants to play with war, but not let them get too serious. Yet like children playing with fire, things can get out of control. Whenever the dollar spurts upwards now, we can be certain that many people believe the Reagan administration may be like children playing with fire.

I still believe that there is a lot of common sense left in the Reagan administration. They are the men of U.S. big business, and these men have always been careful, cautious, and ruthless. They are not children. In the end, they know that a world economy going into permanent recession means a world going back to war and revolution.



Little remains of what 'Solidarity' stood for

By David Storey
 Reuters

WARSAW — In the eyes of Lech Walesa, the only surviving benefit from the Gdansk agreements, the signing of which three years ago this week opened the way for his Solidarity Union, is the broadcast of a radio mass on Sundays.

"The rest was treated like a piece of waste paper," he said in a recent statement.

The government of General Wojciech Jaruzelski, which declared martial law 20 months ago, argues otherwise.

"The socio-economic demands included in the... agreements have been implemented within the limits allowed by the potential of the economy and the state," according to a pamphlet distributed in time for the anniversary last Wednesday.

Major accords were signed in Gdansk, Szczecin and the coal-mining centre of Jastrzebie after a summer of strikes and worker protests in 1980 had left the Communist government backed against the ropes with its guard down.

The primary demand then, and now too in the view of Solidarity supporters, was for a truly independent trade union movement

which could act as a voice for worker grievances and as a check on a Communist administration with a monopoly of power.

As he put his signature to the 21-point Gdansk accord after days of intense negotiations in a sweaty shipyard hall, Mr. Walesa declared: "We have achieved all that we could have achieved in the present situation."

"We shall achieve the rest because now we have the most important thing, our independent, self-governing trade unions. This is our guarantee for the future."

Sixteen turbulent months later, with the economy still reeling, the Communist party in tatters and Solidarity's political strength growing, the tanks rolled, the jail doors slammed and Solidarity was locked up.

Ten months later The Union was officially dissolved.

"So what remained from the August agreements?" Mr. Walesa asked recently as he struggled to maintain his own role as leader of a social movement.

"Their most important element was the freedom to form alternative unions. What has remained is the radio mass on Sundays and empty words about the just-

ified nature of the 1980 worker protests," he said.

The government pamphlet, reflected in statements and newspapers, argues that implementation of the agreements was held up directly because of the disruption caused by protests after Solidarity was registered in October 1980.

It said purely economic worker demands were met as fully as possible, including wage rises to offset inflation, meat rationing to control short supplies, a fair pension scheme and increased maternity benefits.

The demand for work-free Saturdays, one of the most controversial points in view of the inevitable loss of production, was partially fulfilled during the Solidarity era.

Workers in key industries like mining have been ordered to work long hours since the military takeover, although they get overtime pay.

The authorities accepted in principle more fundamental demands, like providing kindergartens for all children, a drastic improvement of the health service and cutting the waiting time for flats, now often more than 10 years.

But little can be done until the economy picks up and there is greater doubt over the more nebulous proposals.

One called for more honesty, consultation and democracy in government and economic administration and another for an end to privileges and job priority for Communist party members.

Both points were agreed by the Communist authorities at the time and are part of a so-called "renewal" of Poland's socialist system agreed at a special party congress in July, 1981 in the wake of Solidarity's challenge.

But few Solidarity supporters, embittered by the military takeover and the dismantling of a union with 9.5 million members, consider these promises brought any changes at all.

A basic demand in Gdansk was for a relaxation of censorship and greater access to the media for people and organisation not wholly controlled by the Communist party.

A more liberal censorship law was introduced shortly before the military crackdown but it has already been toughened under regulations passed when martial law was lifted in July this year.

The official press — and part from a few Catholic papers that is all there is — does contain a wider variety of views than in other East bloc states and is less reluctant to publish uncomfortable news than it was before Solidarity came along.

The main point of the Gdansk agreements was to create new trade unions to replace the pro-Communist structures which concentrated on allocating holiday homes or paying out a grant when a member died.

The 1980 protests were largely a reaction to the breakdown in communications between workers and the party apparatus during more than 30 years of rule by the Polish United Workers (Communist) Party.

Solidarity, for all its admitted political naivety and disorganisation, was a force that, at least initially, represented a genuine social cause. It was a biggest popular movement to emerge in a Communist East European state.

The authorities say it exceeded its statutes and the Gdansk accords, by becoming a political party itself and developing into an anti-Communist force controlled by extremists and dissidents bent on overthrowing the system.

Indian opposition predicts early general elections

By Jeremy Clift
 Reuters

NEW DELHI — India's fragmented opposition groups believe Prime Minister Indira Gandhi may call an early general election and are trying to patch together an alliance capable of unseating her.

Mrs. Gandhi, whose Congress (I) Party has a two-thirds majority in the Lower House of Parliament, does not have to call elections until January 1985.

But opposition leaders, predicting a ballot as early as next January or February, have held a series of meetings designed to forge a credible alternative to the 65-year-old prime minister.

Apart from a three-year break from 1977 to 1980, Mrs. Gandhi has led India since 1966. She persistently denies rumours of an imminent election and says she will complete her five-year term.

"If we have elections now, then we stop in the middle of so many programmes that have to be pushed through," she said in an interview with the *Times of India* this

month.

But few politicians or political commentators are convinced.

They see recent activities in the Congress camp as preparations for an early ballot and believe the weather will play a major part in Mrs. Gandhi's calculations.

A late monsoon is likely to increase autumn and winter rice crops, and a good harvest by early December could make January a suitable month for an early poll, commentators say.

Mrs. Gandhi recently increased the government purchase price paid to farmers for rice, groundnuts and other crops, reduced fertiliser costs and announced schemes for assisting the unemployed.

Other pointers include the recent replacement of Jagannath Mishra, chief minister of Bihar, with Chandra Shekhar Singh, the former minister of state for energy, in an attempt to improve the party's image in a key state in the northern Hindi-speaking belt where Congress secures much of its support.

The Congress has been undergoing a thorough reorganisation since surprise defeats in two former bastions in the south of the country, the states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

It has set up a special committee to review progress in implementing its 1980 election manifesto, and Mrs. Gandhi's politician son, Rajiv, has been organising youth training camps.

Vidya Charan Shukla, who heads the special committee, said a team of ministers had been formed to check on the performance of different ministries and states since 1980 and both Rajiv and Mrs. Gandhi were watching the review closely.

But he said this did not indicate that a mid-term election was planned and added: "We are working in the normal time frame. Elections are scheduled to be held in late 1984 or early 1985."

Opposition parties are anxious to avoid the mistakes of last time. A five-party Janata coalition swept to power in 1977 following Mrs. Gandhi's unpopular period of emergency rule, only to dis-

integrate because of internal squabbles, allowing Mrs. Gandhi to stage a spectacular comeback in 1980.

The first substantial result of recent opposition talks has been the announcement of an alliance between the right-wing, mainly Hindu, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Lok Dal (People's Party) of former Prime Minister Charan Singh.

The new grouping, named the National Democratic Alliance, becomes the largest opposition group in the Lower House of Parliament, with 40 seats against the Congress Party's 355.

The Communist Party of India (Marxist), the next biggest opposition party, has 36 seats.

A rival opposition group is emerging around Chandra Shekhar, 56, president of the rump of the Janata Party.

Mr. Shekhar, widely regarded as a man of stature and principle, has been trying to forge a left-leaning alliance which might make electoral arrangements with the Communists.

Clashes of personality are the main obstacle to a cohesive anti-Gandhi alliance. They blocked an understanding between the ageing Harijan (low caste) leader Jagjivan Ram and Charan Singh and could also stand in the way of a link between Mr. Singh and Mr. Shekhar.

Congress leaders take delight in such opposition wrangling and Mrs. Gandhi described the BJP-Lok Dal alliance as a joke.

Some commentators see the situation in neighbouring Sri Lanka as a factor which could prevent an early poll.

Mrs. Gandhi has actively tried to assuage concern in southern India about anti-Tamil violence in Sri Lanka and has taken up a mediator's role in an attempt to help the Colombo government reach a long-term political solution.

But other foreign policy issues are running in her favour. In September she will attend the United Nations General Assembly as head of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement, while the Commonwealth summit in November will again cast her in the role of a world leader.

Gen. Doe of Liberia plots coup in Ghana



By Victoria Brittain

THE LIBERIAN leader, General Samuel Doe, has met leaders of Ghana's armed opposition groups to consider a plan to overthrow Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings.

The plan involved the use of Liberian territory for training. Liberian troops as back-up, a supply of sophisticated military equipment, including four helicopter gunships, four assault boats, a radio transmitter with a range of 100,000 square miles, 200 military uniforms, 100 Ak rifles and other arms and ammunition.

Details of the ambitious invasion plot have reached London in a letter to General Doe from a former Ghanaian general, Joshua Hamidu, an opposition figure based in Nairobi. In the letter, he lists the equipment he wants and asks for \$180,000 in cash. Rivalries among the exile leadership, much of it based in London, have in the past exposed other coup plans which have had the backing of U.S. and Israeli intelligence.

This is the first time Liberia has been mentioned in connection with plots against the Provisional National Defence Council in Accra. There have been six conspiracies in the past 18 months.

It is a logical place for the Ghanaian exiles to look for help. The U.S. has increased its military aid to Liberia tenfold since Gen. Doe took over, and the expensive list drawn up in Gen. Hamidu's letter would not be an impossible drain on the well-equipped Liberian army.

Gen. Doe has recently transformed the Liberian government's former radical image. American and British civilian advisers are in key positions, organising Liberia's return to civilian rule planned for 1985. Liberia has also followed Zaire in resuming diplomatic relations with Israel. Earlier this year, the Ghanaian government accused the CIA and Israeli intelligence of supporting mercenaries in an unnamed neighbouring country. The U.S. denied the charges.

In June, a coup attempt was launched from Togo on Ghana's eastern border. In the subsequent trials of those involved in that plot and another planned for two days earlier, soldiers told the public tribunal that they had been assured by the coup organisers of support from Israeli troops who would be brought in from the Ivory Coast.

Some of the key military officers tried in absentia for coup plots dating back to last November are now based in the Ivory Coast or Togo. Thirteen of those at liberty have been sentenced to death. A major and three soldiers were executed for their part in the June plots.

Death sentences were also passed this week on a former member of the Provisional National Defence Council, Mr. Amarey Kwei, and three soldiers for the murders of three High Court judges and a retired army officer in June, last year. — The Guardian

Druze seek a fair share in Lebanon

By G.H. Jansen

BEIRUT — The Druze who were holding Beirut international airport hostage against the satisfaction of an ever growing list of political demands do not have grievances as large or as serious as those of some other Lebanese communities — the Shi'as and the Greek Orthodox, for instance. However they all share a common grievance against Maronite domination.

The Druze are the smallest of the country's "major" communities, numbering around 250,000 among a population of over three million, and are concentrated in the Shouf area, the southern Bekaa and the slopes of Mount Hermon. There are about the same number of Druze in Syria, especially in Latakia, and about 50,000 in Israel. Their faith, originating with the sixth Fatimid caliph, al-Hakim, in Cairo in the early 11th century, is of Islamic origin. The Druze faith is an esoteric one, with all its real secrets revealed only to initiates, who can be both men and women, but it is known to contain a belief in the transmigration of souls.

One of several articles of the faith lays down a moral code that enjoins honesty and truthfulness, mutual help to other Druze and the maintenance of the secrecy of Druze teachings; there is no con-

version into the Druze faith. Consequently, the Druze have become a small, tightly knit, endogamous and somewhat inward-turning community, generally respected for the distrustworthiness of its members but also looked at slightly askance because of its exclusivity. It is this cohesiveness that has given the Druze an influence on the history of the region quite disproportionate to their numbers. In the 17th and 18th centuries there were extensive Druze principalities in the Shouf area under such rulers as Fakr ad-Din and Bashir Chehab, who built the palace at Beit ad-Din, the single most splendid building in Lebanon.

In a way it is strange that Druze and Maronite should now be fighting each other in the Shouf because both are agreed in saying, correctly, that they are the only really "national" communities in Lebanon; because while the other communities — Sunnis, Shi'as and Greek Orthodox — are to be found in much larger numbers in many other countries, the main concentration of the Maronites is restricted to Lebanon alone, and the Druze concentration is in Lebanon and Syria only.

Their present hostility has two historical roots: the Druze were much more widely spread in Mount Lebanon but lost territory

to the Maronites and were pushed south by them out of the Kesrouan and Metn, which then became the Maronite heartland, while the Shouf remained the Druze heartland, with the Beirut-Damascus highway as the dividing line between them. Second, in 1860 and anti-feudal Druze revolt in the southern Bekaa degenerated into a massacre of Christians, which the Maronites still recall vividly and with particular horror even though, numerically, most of the Christian victims were not Maronite but Orthodox. Nevertheless, through all the violence and bloodshed that has afflicted Lebanon during the last ten turbulent years Druze and Maronite lived peaceably side by side in the Maronite-dominated Metn and the Druze-dominated Shouf.

It was the Israelis who, in order to divide and rule, deliberately wrecked this communal compact by bringing the Maronite Falangist militiamen into the Shouf where they began behaving like the new masters. The Druze, for all their reputation as fighters, did not oppose the Israeli advance into the Shouf but they refused to accept the Maronite intrusion across the traditional boundary and Maronite bullying; the subsequent war in the Shouf has produced a death toll of over 400.

The Israelis began by favouring



Kamal Jumblatt

their new and powerful Falangist allies against the Druze, who were allies of the PLO, but then a countervailing force came into play. The Druze in Israel, perhaps through another exercise in dissimulation, had always been loyal citizens of the Jewish state and were enrolled and fought in the Israeli army, even against Arab Druze. But they made clear that their loyalty to their threatened fellow Druze in Lebanon was at least as strong as their loyalty to Israel, and several Druze soldiers even showed that community loyalty was stronger by deserting and fighting with their co-religionists. The Israeli Druze, with increasing vehemence, have demanded that Israel protect Lebanese Druze against the Falangist militia, and this pressure has finally prevailed. For the past three months the Israeli army has clearly favoured the Druze in the Shouf, allowing Syrian-supplied arms to go to the Druze through the Israeli army lines.

The Druze artillery bombarding the airport is sited just behind the heavily-manned Israeli front line position at Khaleel. But until they finally sided with the Druze, the Israelis, whether by indecision or design, swung back and forth between the antagonists, enforcing half-hearted ceasefires, but in effect keeping the pot boiling in the Shouf — and stability in the Shouf is the key to stability in Lebanon because the Shouf, dominating Beirut, is the key strategic area of the whole country.

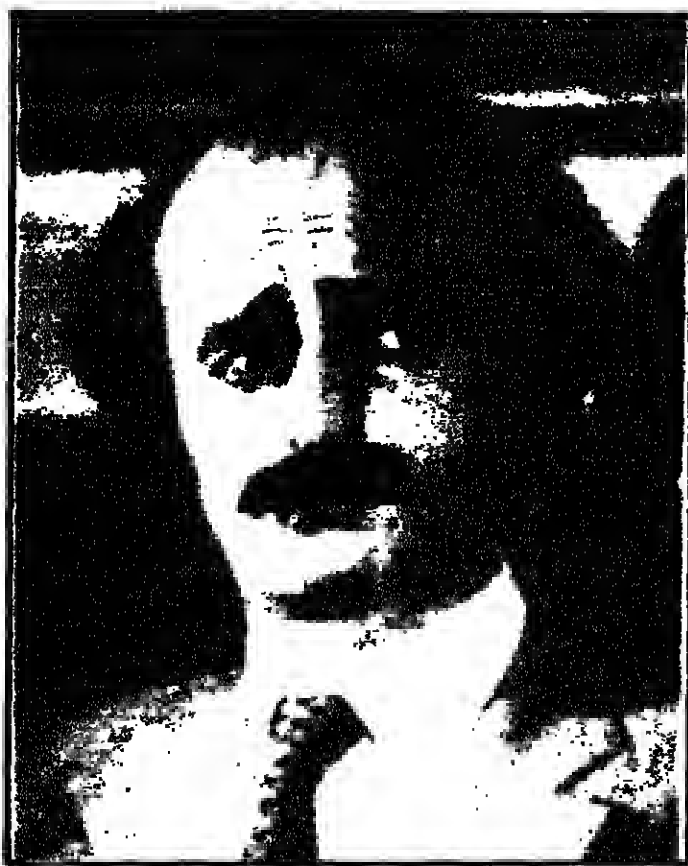
All this has revived Druze dis-

content with what they thought was the smallness of the slice allotted to them in the communal carve-up that passes for a political system in Lebanon. Perhaps because of their martial reputation, the post of defence minister was usually given to a Druze and, unfortunately, for a generation almost invariably that Druze was Emir Majid Arslan, an immensely poorly feudal lord, a pillar of the Lebanese establishment but yet a figure of fun, who did little to advance his community's fortunes. Hence the Druze felt politically cheated. The combatant Druze representative was his political rival, Kamal Jumblatt, a scion of an aristocratic Druze family but a socialist, a high-ranking Druze initiate and a yogi. Jumblatt held cabinet posts several times but was far more often in opposition and played a large part in bringing about the downfall of two Lebanese presidents, Bishara al-Khouri and Camille Chamoun.

During the second civil war Jumblatt became the leader of the Muslim-Nationalist-PLO coalition and was robbed of military victory over the Falangists only by the intervention of the Syrian army in June 1976. Almost certainly because of his bitter criticism of the Syrians they as-

assinated him in 1977. His mantle descended on his son Walid Jumblatt, who wanted none of it but could not escape; his unease in this role, combined with his personal eccentricities, has made him a weak and unpredictable leader. Community leaders now criticise his present alliance with Syria and his quixotic support for the Fateh rebels against Arafat.

The Druze now want two things: they want their position in the Shouf to be secured by the removal of the Falange militia, and they want the Lebanese political system to be overhauled so that the community, formally and constitutionally, has the clout it once (informally) had thanks to the leadership and forceful personality of Kamal Jumblatt. Both Gemayel and the Israelis seem agreed on the removal of the Falangist militia, but Gemayel has been reluctant to move towards internal political dialogue since he knows that any reform of the Lebanese system must be in the direction of a diminution of Maronite dominance. He has just begun reconciliation talks with the Druze, but these will succeed only if he swallows his presidential pride and meets with Walid Jumblatt. Middle East International.



Druze leader Walid Jumblatt

Journey to Jerusalem: 'A powerful defence of the Palestinian rights'

By Hugh Caradon

I cannot exactly remember when I first read Grace Halsell's book, *Journey to Jerusalem*. It must have been a year or two ago. I was excited and moved, and horrified too, to read the stories she told — personal stories of hope and despair, of cruelty and conflict. She brought to life the current tragedy of people in places I myself knew so well when I lived and worked there in Palestine for a decade nearly half a century ago.

When I came back this month to Jerusalem I took her book with me. I am so glad I did. The personal stories she told throw a clear light on the present plight of the Palestinians and the tragedy of their present bitter confrontation with the Israeli government. I hear and read what the leaders say on both sides. I see in Jerusalem and elsewhere in what is left of Pal-

estine the advance of colonisation as one people seeks to subdue and replace another. I closely follow every move by neighbouring and distant powers. I anxiously and vainly hope for effective international initiatives in time to bring some hope of peace. But none of the public reports, still less none of the partisan statements, gives as vivid a picture of the central problem of the Middle East as the stories which Grace Halsell tells of the effect of repressive policies on individual human lives.

I do not think that anyone who reads this book will believe that she made her journey to Jerusalem with any biased political purpose, but no-one who reads it can fail to understand the result — a powerful defence of the human rights of the Palestinians. I believe that anyone who looks at Jerusalem now, as I am doing as I write, must realise how right and

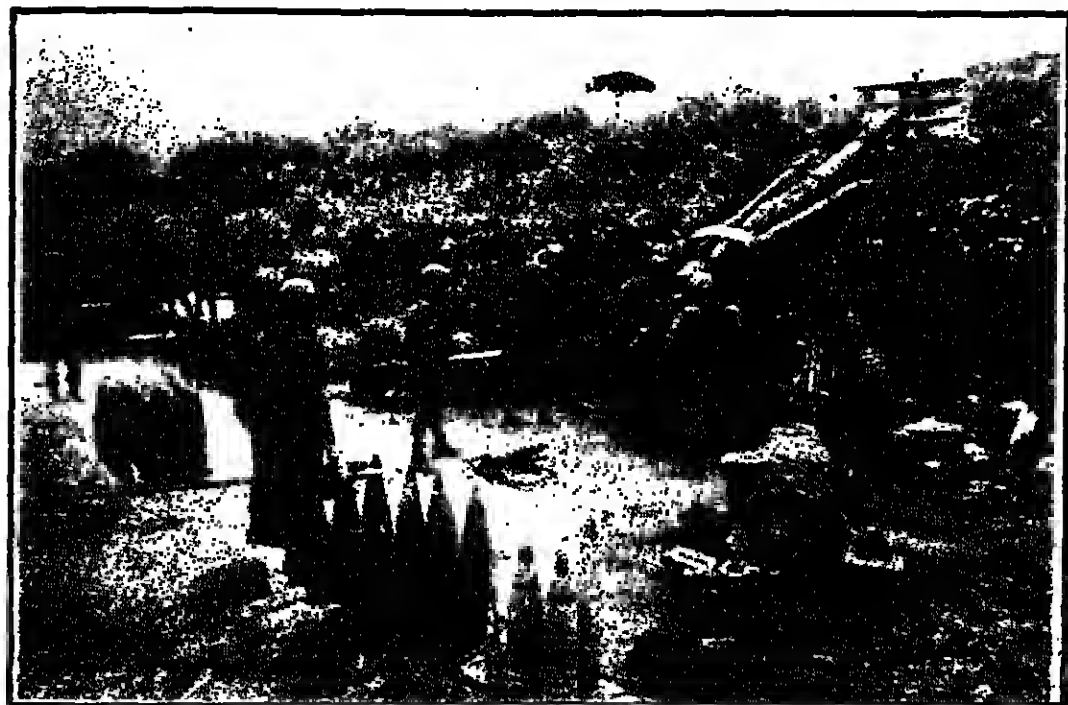
necessary it is to speak out for justice and freedom. Indeed I would say that anyone who comes fresh to the central problem of the Middle East — the problem of the future of the Palestinians — should read Grace Halsell's book to realise the human factors involved. If human rights continue to be neglected and flouted then there can be no hope of peace.

I go back in my mind to think of all the bloodshed and conflict and hatred the Middle East has witnessed since I saw the riots in Jerusalem and Hebron half a century ago. Of one thing I am certain: All the bloodshed and conflict and hatred of the past will be vastly exceeded in the future unless there is a new determined international endeavour to achieve a just and secure peace — and I fear it may now be too late.

Grace Halsell tells us in human terms what it means for people to

be driven from their homes, to lose their land, to be condemned to work for their oppressors for pitiful wages, to be harassed, repeatedly arrested, tortured. In doing so she may help the Palestinians keep up their courage as they face more persecution; she may help the many Israelis who detest the repressive policies of the present Israeli government; she may help people in America and in Europe who are unaware that their governments are participating and even assisting in such an international disgrace. She may even help to convince all concerned that only by urgent and concentrated action in the Security Council of the United Nations can the present desperate situation be saved.

Journey to Jerusalem by Grace Halsell MacMillan, New York, 1981, \$11.95.



Christian Falange soldiers load a 155-mm howitzer in the tension-filled Shouf Mountains (J.T. file photo).

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SPORTS

Trainer criticises Kolbe despite semifinals victory

DUISBURG, West Germany (R) — West Germany's Peter-Michael Kolbe, three times world single sculls champion, came under fire Friday from his trainer immediately after winning his way through to Sunday's world championship final.

Juergen Duse said he was worried by Kolbe's rowing despite a comfortable semifinal win and the fastest time of the day. Kolbe could no longer be seen as the hot title favourite, he said.

"Some technical flaws have crept into his rowing," Duse added. "His main problem is that he is not bringing the sculls out of the water cleanly."

Kolbe's time of six minutes 53.83 seconds was the quickest on Duisburg's Wedau Lake in this week's championships, but he beat Vladek Lacina of Czechoslovakia by less than half a length in the weakest semifinal.

East German UWE Mund, at

21 nine years younger than Kolbe, looked more impressive in the other semifinal. Though his time was 0.6 off a second slower than the West German's, Mund cruised home over the last 50 metres to conserve his strength.

Duse sees Mund as the main threat to Kolbe's efforts to recapture the world title after coming out of a 20-month retirement from the sport.

But he does not rule out Soviet sculler Vassili Iakoucha, last year's silver medalist, who came only third in Mund's semifinal behind American Christopher Wood.

Kolbe, who last won the world championship gold two years ago in Munich, made a comeback this summer, saying his target was an Olympic gold in Los Angeles next year.

He quickly found his form and became the hottest favourite in the eight men's classes at Duisburg. He and Duse soon revised their early target of a medal place at Duisburg and agreed to aim at the world title.

Kolbe has been the darling of West German rowing for the past decade but Friday there were more cheers from the home crowd for another team — the West German quadruple scullers.

They kept their noses in front for the whole 2,000 metres in the day's most exciting semifinal.

In the women's semifinals one of the best performances of the day came from 22-year-old East German single sculler Jutta Hampe, who beat world champion Irina Fetisova by almost half a second.

U.K. soccer season gets into rhythm

LONDON (R) — The opening matches over, the English soccer season begins to get into its rhythm this weekend with four sides vying for the top slot including unfashionable Notts County.

Larry Lloyd is County's unexpected star after guiding his side to maximum points after two first division matches. Last season, he was ready to quit football after being sacked by third division Wigan.

He is under no illusions about how tough it will be to maintain the good start. On Saturday, County entertain Ipswich, a fixture that resulted in a 6-0 drubbing for them last year.

But he said: "We're a different side now and full of confidence." County are joined at the top by West Ham, Aston Villa and Arsenal, whose £750,000 (\$1,125,000) signing Charlie Nicholas will face a searching test of his goal scoring skills from England goalkeeper Peter Shilton at Southampton.

Nicholas, a Scottish international imported from Celtic to provide goals and entertainment, has already got off the mark with two goals for his new club.

Hesitant starts by champions Liverpool under new manager Joe Fagan and Manchester United are no cause for concern this early in the season, but Liverpool face Nottingham Forest, who beat them at home last season and came close to doing the same at Liverpool's Anfield ground before going down 4-3.

Manchester United travel to Stoke where they were beaten last season. Lou Macari may be brought in to replace United's off-form Irish teenager Norman Whiteside, while John Gidman comes in at right-back for Mike Duxbury.

Tottenham, who with United and Liverpool are tipped as title contenders this season, entertain London rivals West Ham with their injury worries lessening.

Their Argentine world cup star Ossie Ardiles was expected to be out for five weeks with a recurrence of shin trouble, but may begin training this weekend.

Steve Archibald and fellow Scottish striker Alan Brazil were both expected to miss Saturday's match after limping off against Coventry on Monday, but Archibald may now be fit.

Swedes dominate table tennis event

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (R) — European champion Mikael Appelgren and fellow-Swedes Jan-Ove Waldner and Erik Lindh reached the semifinals of the world table tennis cup Thursday night.

Zoran Kalinic, the Yugoslav champion and fourth semifinalist, has the difficult task of stopping a Swedish player winning the cup for the first time.

Sweden are guaranteed one finalist from the semifinal between Waldner and Lindh, frequently doubles partners. Appelgren, the runner-up last year, plays Kalinic.

Only Appelgren, at 22, is no longer a teenager, and this tremendous trio look set to keep their country at the forefront of the sport for a decade. Even the Chinese, surprisingly eclipsed in this year's world cup, cannot in future feel safe from so much rapidly developing talent.

The highlight of Thursday's play was the quarter-final in which Waldner, 17, gained his revenge in five thrilling games over Carl Prian, the 16-year-old English number one.

Prian beat Waldner in the

round-robin stage of the competition and Waldner qualified for the quarter-finals only after saving a match point against the South Korean Kim Ki Taek.

Even then Jiang would still have qualified had not the 37-year-old Yugoslav saved a match point in the second game and taken the match the full distance before Boggan won 21-18, 21-23, 21-12.

Cal, the tournament favourite, knew he had to beat Erik Lindh in straight games to qualify above the young Swede and the other Yugoslav, Zoran Kalinic.

But Lindh, a late replacement in the event for former world champion Seiji Ono of Japan, played a brilliant first game and won it and even though he lost the match to Cal 17-21, 21-15, 21-19, was still safely through to the quarter-final.

Shocks for Chinese

All this meant the Chinese never quite recovered from their shock opening day defeats to both Yugoslavs.

Two other Swedes, Mikael Appelgren and Jan-Ove Waldner,

also qualified, and Sweden is now the world cup's most likely destination.

The other two quarter-final places were filled by former world champion Isvao Jovner of Hungary and 16-year-old English schoolboy Carl Prian.

Once again Prian was ahead by two games to one, but with the quarter-finals extended to five games instead of three, Waldner was eventually able to wear him down, counter-attacking brilliantly in the fourth and fifth games as the English schoolboy began to flag. Waldner won 18-21, 21-19, 11-21, 21-12, 21-11.

Lindh, 19, a late substitute in the competition, also played a fine match, coming from 12-7 down in the third game to beat the North American champion Eric Boggan 14-21, 21-11, 21-18, 21-7.

Only the match in which the former European champion Dragutin Surbek of Yugoslavia was beaten 23-21, 21-15, 21-19 by Appelgren was a disappointment. Perhaps at the age of 37, the Yugoslav felt out of place amidst so much youthfulness.

Mexican hit fatally in WBC title fight

LOS ANGELES (R) — Francisco "Kiko" Bejines of Mexico was in a critical condition after being knocked out by American Alberto Davila in a world bantamweight boxing title fight here Thursday night.

Bejines was knocked out 23 seconds into the 12th and final round of the fight for the vacant World Boxing Council (WBC) title.

The 21-year-old Mexican was taken to California hospital by ambulance and then flown by helicopter to County-University of Southern California Medical Centre.

Dr. Bernhart Schwartz, the

ring-side doctor, said the boxer's condition was critical and life-threatening. "There is no way you can tell the prognosis or the outcome," he said.

Bejines was leading on two of the three judges' cards after 11 rounds and needed only to stay on his feet to win the fight.

But Davila, 29, making his fourth attempt to win the title, opened up with a furious rally in the 12th. He knocked Bejines down with a vicious combination that ended with a right to the head as Bejines was falling.

Bejines hit the ropes as he was knocked to the canvas and tried twice to get up, but could not reg-

ain his balance. Referee Waldemar Schmidt from Puerto Rico counted him out.

It was a sudden turn of events as Bejines had used an effective right to the head to open up a lead and appeared on his way to the title.

Judge Jose Mayorga of Nicaragua had Bejines in front 107-102, while judge Dimas Hernandez of Venezuela had the Mexican leading 106-104. The third judge, Angel Luis Guzman of Puerto Rico, had the fight a 105-105 draw.

Davila, winning for the 46th time in 54 fights, said after the fight: "This is a dream come true

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Telephone no.: 667295.

Hala Kindergarten cordially invites parents of children registered for the 1983/1984 scholastic year to attend the special party to be given at 4-6 Thursday, Sept. 8. The management is pleased to announce that there is a limited number of seats. Convenient transport guaranteed.

(The Management)

Spode



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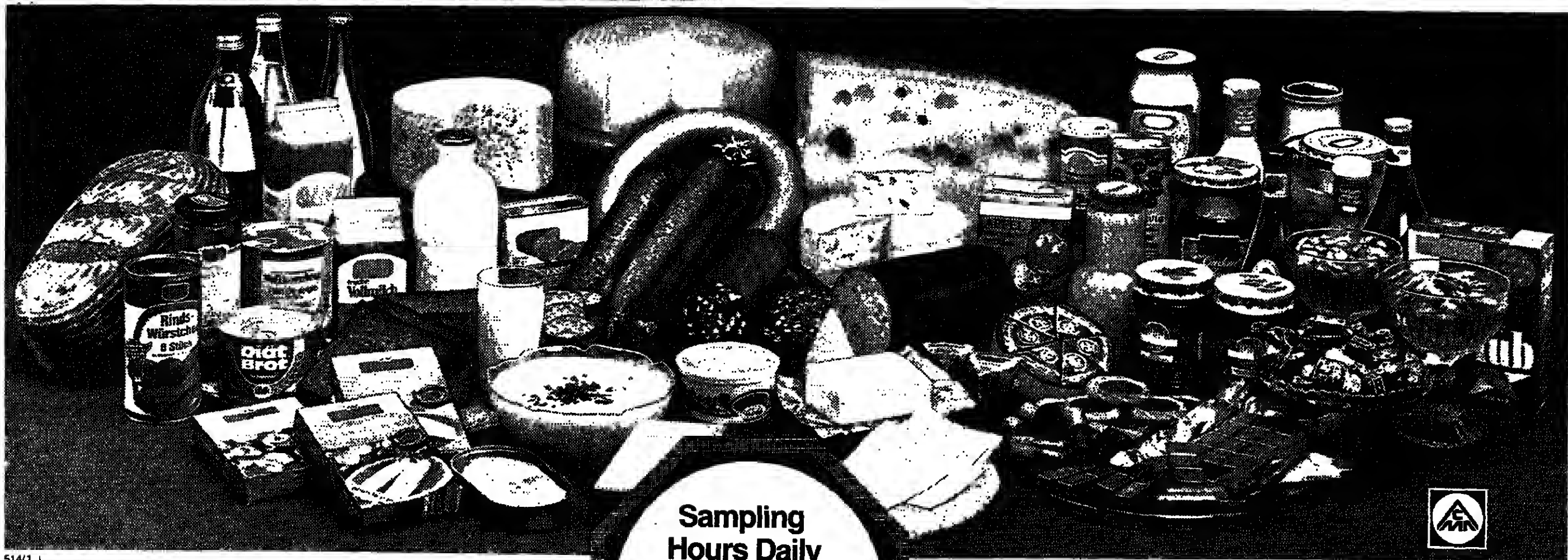
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GERMAN FOOD
ALL OVER
THE WORLD

ECONOMY

Prominent Brazilian banker resigns

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil's central bank governor, Mr. Carlos Langoni, has resigned rather than accept "unrealistic" economic terms from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in current debt negotiations, the central bank said.

Mr. Langoni, 39, was one of a trio of top economic officials responsible for handling Brazil's estimated \$90 billion foreign debt, the largest in the developing world.

His resignation, announced Thursday, adds a further element of uncertainty to Brazil's debt problem, which has been causing concern in world financial centres.

Since last year Mr. Langoni had been prominent in dealings with international creditor banks, governments and the IMF, as this country of 125 million people sought to avoid default.

The spokesman said Mr. Langoni disagreed with other members of the military-led government over an economic programme being drawn up with the IMF.

He considered the targets for inflation and the reduction of the public sector deficit in 1984 to be unrealistic, the spokesman said.

Last February Brazil concluded a package with creditors that included debt rescheduling and a \$4.4 billion bank loan. It lined up IMF standby loans totalling \$5.4 billion.

But it failed the IMF's quarterly economic performance tests last June and lost its IMF loan disbursements.

The country has fallen \$2 billion in arrears on debt payments and is now seeking to renegotiate the original package and has also asked to refinance 1984 debts.

USSR buys large quantity of U.S. grain

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States Thursday announced the first sale to the Soviet Union under a new grain agreement as a congressional leader called for cancellation of the deal in protest against Moscow's alleged shooting down of a South Korean airliner with 269 people on board.

The Agriculture Department said 500,000 tonnes of wheat and 400,000 tonnes of corn had been bought by the Soviet Union under the grain pact signed in Moscow last week.

Department and grain trade sources said the timing of the signing probably represented an attempt by the Soviet to get the sales on the U.S. government's books in the event of future trade restrictions.

Under contract sanctity law signed by President Reagan last January, the United States guarantees shipment for 270 days of all registered agricultural sales except during a declared war or national emergency.

Senate democratic leader Mr. Robert Byrd said the U.S. should nullify the grain deal because of the airliner incident.

The Agriculture Department declined comment on what impact the incident with the South Korean airliner would have on the new five-year grain agreement.

Kuwaiti firm to focus on oil in Third World

KUWAIT (R) — The Kuwait Foreign Petroleum Exploration Company is turning its attention to Third World countries in the search for oil, a senior official of the company said Wednesday night.

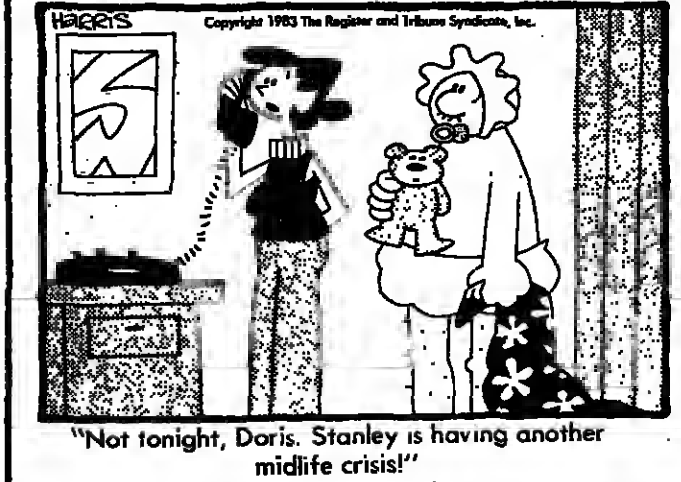
Managing Director Abdul Razzak Mulla Hussein told a news conference his company, established in 1981 with capital of 100 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$340 million), had now entered into exploration agreements with Morocco, Sudan, Oman, Egypt, Turkey, Indonesia, Tanzania, Sicily, Ireland, China and Australia.

Negotiations on agreements with Bahrain, Tunisia and Pakistan had reached an advanced stage, he added.

Eighty per cent of world exploration efforts were in European and American countries and only 20 per cent in developing countries, he said.

Mr. Hussein said the company, an affiliate of the state-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, would focus more on developing countries, in need of money because of population increases and a drop in raw materials prices. Their oil resources had not been thoroughly tapped, he said.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LEVVA
AMMAD
CHEWEN
DRIFOL

We're all in the same boat these days

PAY LOANS HERE

EVERYBODY WAS IN DEBT BUT IT'S PERMITTED.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O O O O - O O O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MINOR WAFER ABSORB MOSQUE
Answer: What briefs are usually "woven" from — "FIBERS"

OECD forecasts bleak world shipping outlook until 1984

PARIS (R) — The outlook for world shipping in 1983 remains bleak, with demand expected to rise too little to offset a massive surplus tonnage, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Friday.

The OECD's latest forecast on maritime transport said 1982 was one of the blackest years for the world's shipping industry and austere conditions were expected again this year.

Many OECD states went through the worst of the recession at

the end of 1982 and output and demand seemed to be recovering.

But trade between OECD countries was expected to recover only gradually this year, although it was forecast to expand by five to 5.5 per cent in 1984.

There was uncertainty over how fast this forecast moderate recovery would boost demand for shipping services this year and indications were there would be no upturn until the end of 1983.

A moderate increase in shipping demand was projected, but not enough to absorb the massive

global tonnage surplus which overhung the market, the OECD said.

The largest surplus of tonnage since World War II was recorded last year with gross over-capacity in almost all sectors, and prospects for recovery were slim for any sector before the end of 1984, the OECD said.

But the OECD fleet was now down to less than half the world's 424.7 million Gross Registered Tonnage (GRT).

The Greek national fleet fell by 4.7 per cent in 1981/82 and the British fleet by 11.5 per cent, while the Turkish fleet rose by 27.9.

The developing countries benefited most from this, and had a total 63.7 million GRT in mid-1982, halfway to their 1990 target of 20 per cent of world tonnage, the OECD said.

The chance of any significant revival in trip, voyage or period

market shipping rates this year remained remote, with weak demand for dry cargo and a high rate of new ship building.

For the first time in several years total seaborne grain trade fell two per cent in 1982 to 202 million tonnes, due to credit restrictions in some Eastern European countries and larger domestic supplies in the West.

The OECD forecast another fall to 195 to 200 million tonnes this year, with depressed grain freight rates.

Prospects for other dry bulk cargoes such as sugar, softwood were unpromising, especially for iron and ore shipping, due to the depressed state of the world iron and steel industry.

But oil movements were expected to rise to five to seven per cent above the 1982 total, partly due to a slowdown in oil destocking in anticipation of lower prices.

International borrowing drops \$1.9b in August

PARIS (R) — International borrowing fell in August as banks became increasingly cautious in response to interest rate uncertainties and world debt problems, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Friday in a monthly report.

Total borrowing in August was \$8.6 billion, \$1.9 billion less than in July and almost \$5 billion under August 1982 borrowing.

The annual rate for the three months ending in August was \$125 billion, compared with \$173 billion in the previous quarter.

OECD member countries' borrowing fell to \$4.3 billion in August from \$5.9 billion in July and loans to European-based international organisations fell to \$76 million from \$1.4 billion.

Meanwhile, borrowings of non-oil exporting developing countries rose to \$3 billion in August from \$2.2 billion in July.

Saudi Arabia cuts liquid gas price

TOKYO (R) — Saudi Arabia has notified Japanese importers its official price for liquefied petroleum gas shipments to Japan has been cut to \$260 a tonne, from 270, industry sources said.

The new free-on-board price is effective from Thursday, the sources said and comes after a \$10 a barrel price reduction last month, soon followed by other Gulf gas producers.

Saudi liquefied gas prices touched a peak of \$280 last November, reflecting tight supply conditions caused by reduced crude oil output, the sources said.

But Japanese importers, suffering a slowdown in domestic demand and increased price competition from alternative fuels like naphtha, have been demanding that the Saudi ministry of petroleum and mineral resources (Petromin) cut its price to \$250 a tonne or less.

Japan will import 5.8 million tonnes of liquefied gas from Saudi Arabia this year, of which 2.8 million tonnes will be through direct deal contracts.

Saudi Arabia told Japanese buyers earlier this week it will supply them in September with the full volume of gas they have contracted to buy.

Shipments of the liquefied gas have varied this year in line with Saudi crude oil output, averaging 75 per cent of contracted volume in the first seven months, the sources said.

The Japanese importers were assured of 80 per cent of contracted volume in August.

Swiss bank buys back bonds from S. Arabia

ZURICH (R) — The Swiss National Bank has bought back 150 million Swiss francs (\$68.5 million) worth of its own debentures held by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority for the last two years, banking sources here said Thursday.

The central bank had over confirmed the notes were held by Saudi Arabia. But its latest 10-day financial statement showed a debit position representing the notes had been removed after their repurchase from a foreign financial institution.

The sources said Saudi Arabia originally bought 500 million francs (\$228 million) of debentures when it wanted to diversify its foreign assets out of the dollar and make Swiss franc investments.

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LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed lower in slack pre-weekend trading. The South Korean Airliner incident caused some inhibition and at 1500 the F.T. index was down 7.1 at 701.5.

ICI finished 4p off at 538, Glaxo fell 7p to 800 while Unilever eased 5p to 760. B.P. was 2p off at 434 and other oils were narrowly mixed.

Government bonds showed little change in minimal activity, gold shares drifted easier from a firmer start and North American stocks were mixed.

United Newspapers fell to 246p from 273 after its proposal to raise 29.5 mln stg through a rights issue to fund the acquisition of Grailas publications of the U.S.

Hoover rose to 205 from 160 on news that its U.S. parent is planning to acquire shares it does not already own. Mettoy touched a low of 2p in response to the announcement that its associate Drago Data had a setback but the shares later steadied to close 9p off at 8p.

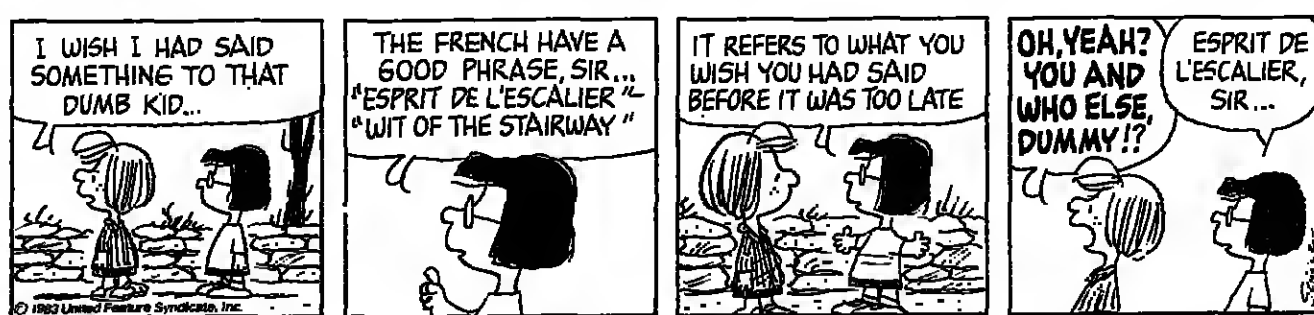
Tate and Lyle reacted to Thursday's fall adding 4p at 360 while Atlantic Resources added 30p at 345 on renewed demand, dealers said.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4940/50	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2327/30	Canadian dollars
	2.6995/705	West German marks
	2.0185/95	Dutch guilders
	2.1885/95	Swiss francs
	54.27/30	Belgian francs
	8.1250/300	French francs
	1611.00/1612.00	Italian lire
	246.75/90	Japanese yen
	7.9200/300	Swedish crowns
	7.5000/6000	Norwegian crowns
	9.7000/8000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	417.90/418.40	U.S. dollars

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Minor annoyances that are in effect today are apt to be taken more seriously than they actually are, since most persons are inclined to feel sorry for themselves and to have some self pity.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get those little odds and ends of jobs done at home enabling you to improve conditions there considerably.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get at all that shopping you have delayed doing of late and then get at home chores that are important.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Concentrate on how to improve your financial status and handle all business affairs wisely, well. Go out on the town tonight.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You feel that others are deliberately annoying you, but it is only because your nerves are on edge, so get control of yourself.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You have been procrastinating about doing certain duties, so get them handled today, particularly if they are of a personal nature.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Do little favors for good friends and add to your present popularity. Concentrate on how to better yourself in the evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Plan how to improve your career work and gain more prestige as well as make more money. Gain a good deal more backing from a higher-up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study into new outlets today that can bring you greater prosperity in the future. Don't change your views because a friend is insistent.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Show that you are thoughtful and considerate. Avoid a bigwig who could be on the warpath today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Situations arise so that you know how to handle career matters better and also get credit matters straightened out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A talk with co-workers on detailed matters can bring greater co-operation in the future. Take time to improve your health in some way.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan your entertainment well so that you get more enjoyment from it. Don't permit a gossip partner to annoy you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be one of those charming young persons who can early make a plan and then carry through with it ably and get views across to others very well, so give a fine education and there can be much success during this lifetime.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword By John Greenman

ACROSS

1 Price tag

5 Valley of vineyards

9 Interior

12 High prof.

13 Exams

15 A Raina

18 Witchcraft

19 Shower

20 Droop

21 Monk

22 Dancer

23 Markov

24 Youngster

25 Between-meals treat

26 Satisfier's course

28 News items

30 R.R. stop

33 Cotillions

34 Gwyn's nemesis

35 Nated school

36 Novelist

37 Hunter

38 Brazen

39 English statesman

39 Dry, as wine

40 Historic battleship

41 Use a tub

42 Wapiti

43 Coastal

44 Ghostly

45 Famed missionary

47 Gunkel

48 Page size

50 Big — nt "Sesame Street"

52 Hit sign

55 Move suddenly

56 Discredit

57 Able tennis member

59 Greek letters

60 Japanese immigrant

61 Playground, e.g.

62 Drunk

63 Bruce of films

64 Shopper's convenience

14 Meagerly

15 "The Red"

17 Furrows, as eyebrows

22 Colleen

23 Ceramist's fibrobox

24 Flatware

25 Rutund

26 "Boleyn" composer

27 Molasses

28 Irregular

29 Swiss city

31 Portion

32 "You used to come —"

33 "n' look"

37 Kanya city

38 History

40 TV name

41 Poets

46 Beany

47 sign

48 Alan of movies

49 Verses of praise

49 — nine-tails

50 First or third

51 Bakery worker

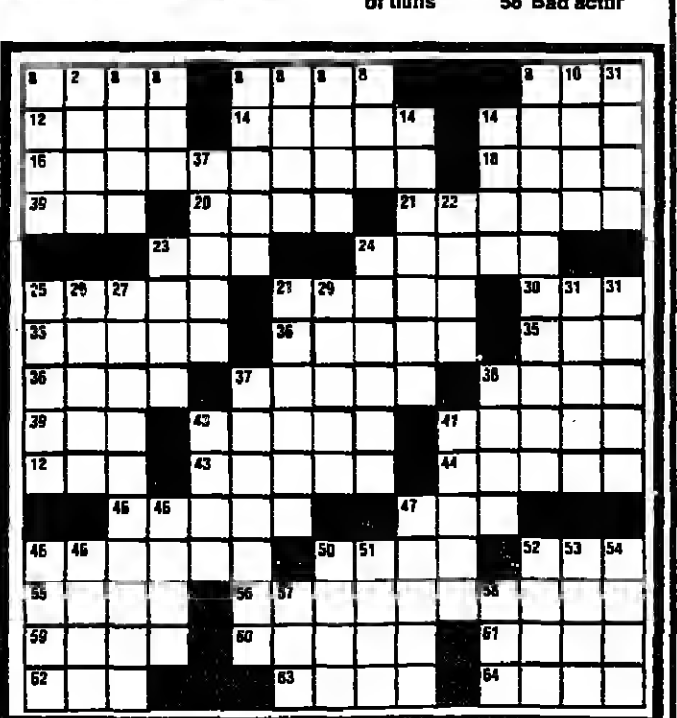
52 Antitoxins

53 Spool

54 Gemstone

57 Dangerous drug

58 Bad actor



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WORLD

Loss of S. Korean 747 signals East-West crisis

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union said Friday its fighters fired warning shots at a Korean airliner flying over Soviet air space on what it said was an obvious intelligence mission.

The first detailed response to U.S. charges that the Boeing 747 airliner was shot down was issued by the official news agency TASS after a day of mounting international outrage over the incident.

In Santa Barbara, California, President Reagan Friday accused Moscow of flagrantly lying about its role in the disappearance of a South Korean jetliner which the United States says was shot down by a Soviet plane.

"What can be said about Soviet credibility when they so flagrantly lie about such a heinous act?" Mr. Reagan said in his first public appearance since Wednesday's incident.

He made his statement as he broke off his California holiday to return to Washington for high-level talks with his national security advisers on possible U.S. responses.

Mr. Reagan described the incident over the Sea of Japan involving the Korean Airlines jumbo jet, with 269 people, including a U.S. congressman aboard, as a "barbaric act."

"This event shocks the sensibilities of people everywhere," the president said.

While events in Afghanistan and elsewhere have left few illusions about the willingness of the Soviet Union to advance its interests through violence and intimidation, all of us had hoped that certain irreducible standards of civilized behaviour, nonetheless obtained," Mr. Reagan said.

"What can we think of a regime that so brazenly trumps its vision of peace and global disarmament and yet so callously and quickly commits a terrorist act to sacrifice the lives of innocent human beings?" he added.

The Soviet statement blamed

the United States for loss of life in the disaster, describing the Korean Airlines flight over the Soviet Far East as a "pre-planned act."

Earlier Soviet accounts of the incident, dismissed by Washington as totally inadequate, spoke only of an unidentified plane and gave no indication of its fate.

The TASS statement, read out towards the end of the evening television news bulletin, confirmed U.S. reports that the airliner had flown for more than two hours over the strategically sensitive Kamchatka Peninsula.

Western diplomats said they believed the Kremlin probably faced its biggest dilemma since Yuri Andropov assumed the leadership last November and that it was still working out its approach on the incident.

Diplomatic speculation in Moscow centred on the level of military or political leadership at which a decision to shoot down the aircraft might have been taken.

The foreign minister admitted the airliner, flying from New York to Seoul via Anchorage, strayed into Soviet air space at Sakhalin, an island bristling with air, army and navy bases.

This could have been due to a fault in its navigational system or a failure in radio contacts with the ground.

Mr. Lee said there was no apparent radio contact between the three MIGs and the airliner before it was shot down.

Military sources in Japan said monitoring of Soviet radio traffic revealed that a ground controller ordered the fighter pilots to aim their missiles and then fire at the aircraft.

The Japanese transport ministry said in Tokyo it had closed the flight path of the anchorage-



Relatives of the victims of the Korean Airlines Boeing 747 that was lost with the loss of 269 lives in the Sea of Japan Wednesday (A.P. wirephoto)

Japan route taken by the ill-fated airliner.

The flight path, called Romeo-20, passed only 128 kilometres from Sakhalin and 48 kilometres from the Soviet-occupied Kurile Islands.

Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone telephoned President Chun and called the incident "a barbaric act on the part of the Soviet Union, over which the entire Japanese people are indignant," Korean officials said.

But a Korean air lines Boeing 747 took off for Seoul early Friday with 290 passengers aboard, just over 48 hours after the previous flight 007 was shot down.

The flight was fully booked, in fact we had an over-booking situation," said Korean Air Lines (KAL) spokesman at New York's JFK Airport.

The spokesman confirmed a KAL statement in Seoul that the airline had closed the ill-fated route R-20 taken by the previous

flight that departed on Wednesday night.

But he declined to give details of the new flight path across the North Pacific after the plane leaves Anchorage, Alaska.

And insurance claims for the ill-fated airliner and 269 people on board could total more than \$435 million, airline officials said Friday.

They said that under an insurance policy with the oriental fire and marine insurance company, the airline will receive \$35 million for the loss of the Boeing 747 and up to \$400 million for the passengers and cargo.

Relatives of each of the 29 crew could also receive up to \$40,000 in insurance funds, KAL said.

In Tokyo, police guarding the Soviet embassy Friday arrested a Japanese man brandishing a kitchen knife who threatened to kill himself over the shooting down of a South Korean airliner.

Police said the man, who was

not identified, announced he planned to slit his stomach open in a traditional method of committing suicide" to show the spirit of the Japanese' and to protest against the Soviet action.

The police guard, reinforced to 200 men, also arrested a Japanese man who tried to scale the embassy fence to shout insults at Soviet diplomats, they said.

Meanwhile, the incident provoked outraged reaction in the Western press Friday, with charges of "massacre in the sky" and "mid-air murder" hurled at the Soviet Union.

The British press took a particularly tough line. Accepting the U.S. account that the Soviet Union tracked the airliner for two-and-a-half hours over the sea north of Japan, the Daily Telegraph said "it was a premeditated murder."

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ted States to "ignore all the temptations of feebleness."

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It would have an adverse impact on U.S.-Soviet arms control talks as well as on general East-West relations, the newspaper said.

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"We express our shock, and regret this incident," he added.

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